

Barn, Saint Aubin's Farm  
510 Diamond Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-464  
C1803

This structure was constructed by Nicholas Hammond, a leading citizen of Easton in the early nineteenth century and first president of the Maryland National Bank. It was one of the major outbuildings of his farm, St. Aubin's.

Architecturally, the building is interesting for its fine brick work, especially the unusual molded cornice. Nicely proportioned and well detailed the structure is one of the finest early barns in the vicinity of Easton, exhibiting the pride and care with which country houses were planned. The building was recently restored and converted into a residence.

"Aubins Keep" is unusual in that it was constructed as a two and a half story farm building of brick. It is significant also because of its original owner and builder, Nicholas Hammond, one of the outstanding men of his time in the community and its continued use and occupancy through the 19th century by the Hollyday family. It is pleasing as well, in its adaptive use today as a residence.

\*\* Farmers Bank of Maryland - Eastern Shore Branch became Easton National Bank January 1, 1854, and became Maryland National Bank in 1962.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

-T-464

2104645304

TOWN OF EASTON  
INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Barn, "St. Aubins"

AND/OR COMMON

Aubins Keep

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

510 Diamond Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Frederick R. Vernon-Williams

Telephone #: 301-822-4046

STREET &amp; NUMBER

510 Diamond Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 488

Folio #: 594

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story and loft brick barn stands to the west of St. Aubins House. It is of brick and was probably constructed by Nicholas Hammond when he constructed his large dwelling C1805. Renamed "The Keep", it has recently been converted to a residence.

This large structure is rectangular and situated with its long side parallel to Diamond Street. It is covered with a gable roof. Two small wooden outbuildings stand to the south and slightly west of the brick barn; the smaller of the two is a gable-roofed corncrib with lattice walls. Adjacent to it is an Adirondack shed which is covered with beaded vertical cyprus siding. The three structures, corncrib, shed, and barn, are connected, forming a court to the south of the barn.

The carriage entrance was on the south side; the wide openings have been replaced with sliding glass doors. The other original entrance is also in the south wall. Window openings in east and west walls were (2nd and 3rd floors only) closed with wooden louvers: On the west facade openings were found in each bay on both floors; the central opening on the second floor has a full-length door, evidently for loading hay. The east facade was similarly treated, the openings being somewhat longer.

The structure is notable for its fine brick work; on the east and south facades - those facing the main house - Flemish bond with raked mortar joints was used.

The other facades have brick laid in a one over five English bond. The eaves are treated with three courses of brick molded into composite, moldings, the lowest being a cove. Light orange in color, the masonry is obviously the work of skilled brick-makers and brick masons.

The structure has recently been remodeled into a home by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Vernon-Williams. They were careful to retain the exterior of each of the buildings as well as a central brick bearing wall and major structural elements of the barn's interior. A one-story, gable-roofed addition covered with board and batten was constructed on the north side. This accomodates the main entrance and services. The floor of the entrance arch is of brick salvaged from the barn's interior floor.

The structure now has three rooms per floor; a stair and fireplace were added. The interior bearing wall, floor joists, and a three centered arch through the bearing wall on the second floor have been carefully incorporated into the design of the interior.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES C1803

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Nicholas Hammond

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This structure was constructed by Nicholas Hammond, a leading citizen of Easton in the early nineteenth century and first president of The Farmers Bank of Maryland - Eastern Shore Branch. It was one of the major out buildings of his farm, St. Aubins.

Architecturally, the building is interesting for its fine brick work, especially the unusual molded cornice. Nicely proportioned and well detailed the structure is one of the finest early barns in the vicinity of Easton, exhibiting the pride and care with which country houses were planned.

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This is an outstanding example of the adaptive use of a fine old brick structure for a present day residence. Nicholas Hammond had been educated in law in Philadelphia and moved to Dorchester County in 1780 where his first wife died. In 1789 he moved to Easton and was married to Rebecca, a daughter of Henry Hollyday of Ratcliffe. He soon became an outstanding citizen of the community. In 1803 he began to put together the properties that he named St. Aubins, devised from his native ancestral home on the Isle of Jersey, and built the present existing buildings. Mr. Hammond died in 1830 and devised his dwelling and lands to his son Dr. Nicholas Hammond. His son died the next year and the property was owned by his widow until 1871 when it was acquired by a niece Sarah Hollyday. The premises were inherited by her children, subject to the life use of her husband Henry. In 1901 and 1903, Henry Jr. was able to buy out the other heirs and obtain a clear title. He stayed in residence until 1918 when he moved his family into Easton and Mr. Thomas Quimby became the owner. Various owners followed such as Cleora Willis in 1923, Albert Hardin and his wife Ruth in 1926, and finally Thomas C. Cover, Jr. and Virginia.

In 1973, the Covers sold a small portion, 10,890 sq. ft. including the old brick barn to Darryland Anne Christensen. These young people had plans for a restoration, but their business took them elsewhere, and they sold this property to Frederick and Eleanor Vernon-Williams who have made the pine old structure into a delightful home.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

T-464

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.

Will Records  
Talbot Count.  
Court House

History of Talbot County, Vol. 1

Oswald Tilghman

Williams and Wilkins Co.

Baltimore, Md. 1915

The Hollyday Family  
James Bordley, Jr.

Md. Historical Society  
Baltimore, Md. 1962

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE NONE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

TELEPHONE Paul Parsons  
301-822-2706 - Pres.

CITY OR TOWN

Easton,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



13 x 1.35

75% 469

St. Aubins ~~Born~~  
510 Diamond Street  
Easton, Md.

T-464

MLF  
9/76

E. R. VERNON - WILLIAMS, JR.  
510 DIAMOND STREET  
EASTON, MARYLAND 21601